The Improv Academy at UCF - Interest Packet

Contact us:
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Who?

President: Alex Bair
Vice President: Zack Wright
Secretary: Brandy Melana Walker
Treasurer: Slade Downs
Marketing: Maya Lopez
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Level One: Alex Avila
Level Two: Sara Ambra
Level Three: Zack Wright
Level Four: Tommy Bowe

UCF Advisor: Heather Gibson

Welcome!

Hello, and welcome to The Improv Academy at UCF! We have a four-tiered system to teach improv and we foster a community of comedy lovers in East Orlando. We are modeled after UCB's style of improv (if you don't know them, you'll learn to love them).

Dues for the organization are $5 for the year. This only applies to students enrolled at UCF. This gives you voting privileges, and also makes you eligible for funding from SGA in the event that we try to go on a group trip, do an event, etc. In the event that we buy t-shirts/hats/fanny packs for the club, we will alert you at least 21 days before the purchase and collect money for them at a later date.

FAQ's

-Is this improv like "Whose Line Is It Anyway?"
Not exactly. We focus on building scenes that can develop into full pieces, almost like mini-plays.

-Are you funnier than "Whose Line Is It Anyway?"
We're a different kind of funny.

-Do I have to be a theatre major to join TIA?
No! All UCF students are welcome to join TIA. We're just thankful that TheatreUCF gives us a home.

-Do I have to be a UCF student to join TIA?
No! If you are not a student, you are welcome to participate, but you will not have all of the privileges of UCF students (voting, receiving SGA funding, etc.). If you join as a non-student, you are not covered by any UCF student insurance. If you join TIA as a non-student, you understand that neither UCF or TIA is responsible for any injuries/expenses you may incur at workshops and shows. (This includes parking tickets).

-Do you do sketch comedy?
Yes. A number of the members of TIA participate in sketch comedy. Feel free to contact Zack Wright for more information.

-Do you do standup comedy?
We do not focus on standup BUT many of the members of TIA are local indie standup comics. If you're interested in the local scene, contact _____ for more information.

The Levels

We are introducing a brand new curriculum with the levels this year. That being said, your level teachers from last year will be placing you into the level they think is best. DO NOT WORRY IF IT SEEMS LIKE YOU DIDN'T MOVE UP, THE LEVELS MOVED DOWN (ie. the old Level Three is now the new "Level Two" - Intro to Game). We're hoping that this change will allow each level to have more focus on certain techniques and skills while leaving plenty of room to grow.

1. The Basics of Improv

In this level, students learn to build scenes with a solid who, what and where. They build characters, work on relationships, and learn to find conflicts. Students will show mastery of the level by doing a LaRonde.
Recommended reading: *Improvisation for the Theater* by Viola Spolin

2. Intro to Game

In this level, students learn how to recognize games in scenes and how to hit them. Students will start with LaRondes, and move to free forms. Students will also begin to learn how to pull premises from an opening monologue.
Recommended reading: *UCB Comedy Improvisation Manual*

3. Exploration and Heightening

In this level, students will learn to heighten games and relationships between characters. A large part of the level will be exploring stakes through Mamets, Free forms, and the semester will end with an intro to Harolds.
Recommended reading: *UCB Comedy Improvisation Manual*, *Truth in Comedy* by Del Close

4. Playing the Game - Harolds

In this level, students will practice everything they've learned through repeated use of the Harold form. This level may also explore other forms to hone their skills at the teacher's discretion.
Recommended reading: *UCB Comedy Improvisation Manual*, *Truth in Comedy* by Del Close

In TIA of olden days, we held a placement audition. Now all new students will start at The Basics of Improv. We want to make sure that all incoming students have the same strong foundation.

If you have any additional questions, please ask any of the TIA officers listed at the top of the packet.

I have read and understand the above information. I want to join TIA and end my life of sadness!

☐ I am a returning student to TIA. I was in Level _____

☐ Paid dues

☐ I'll pay dues later

Name:_____ KnightsMail:_____

Signature:_____ Date:_____